

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 33493 120959Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-09 NEA-10 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-07 AID-05

CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02 PRS-01 ARA-10 AF-08

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O R 120932Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7047

INFO ALL IEA CAPITALS 0063

UNCLAS PARIS 33493

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG FR

SUBJECT: MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS U. S. OFFENSIVE AGAINST

OPEC OIL PRICE INCREASE.

1. LE FIGARO MORNING NOVEMBER 12 FRONT PAGES
"U.S. OFFENSIVE AGAINST ANY OIL PRICE INCREASE."
STORY WITHOUT DATELINE REFERS TO FUNSETH STATEMENT
REGARDING "URGENT CONSULTATIONS WITH WEST EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES AND JAPAN TO AVOID ANY INCREASE IN CRUDE
PRICE." LE FIGARO COMMENTS THAT U.S. ACTION IS
SPECTACULAR SINCE IT ATTEMPTS TO DRAG ALL CONSUMERS
INTO THE DEMARCHE. ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF U. S. AND
OTHER INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES ARE SAID TO BE REAL ENOUGH.
PERHAPS, LE FIGARO SPECULATES, THE U.S. HAS ALREADY
RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM SOME OPEC COUNTRIES, BUT IT
ALSO BELIEVES OPEC MAY REACT BADLY TO AMERICAN PRESSURE.
THE FIRST CONSEQUENCE IT THINKS WILL BE A THREAT TO THE
NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE WHICH IS ALREADY MARKING TIME.

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WILL "URGENT CONSULTATIONS" TAKE PLACE IN IEA AND

BILATERALLY WITH FRANCE? WHAT COMMON OR HARMONIZED
POSITIONS WILL EMERGE? IN ANY EVENT, LE FIGARO
CONTINUES, GOF WILL HAVE TO ACT WITH CAUTION. EVENING
TELEVISION NEWS NOVEMBER 11 HIGHLIGHTED THIS ITEM
WITH MINIMAL COMMENT THAT DEVELOPMENT BEARS WATCHING
AND THAT GOF POSITION OPPOSED TO CONFRONTATION IS
WELL KNOWN.
RUSH

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Disposition Event:
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
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